

generation to act in the interests of future generations.

No nation is more committed to this effort than the United States. In Kyoto, our mission was to persuade other nations to find common ground so we could make realistic and achievable commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. That mission was accomplished. The United States delegation, at the direction of Vice President Gore and with the skilled leadership of Under Secretary Stuart Eizenstat, showed the way. The momentum generated by Vice President Gore's visit helped move the negotiation to a successful conclusion, and I thank him.

I am particularly pleased the agreement strongly reflects the commitment of the United States to use the tools of the free market to tackle this difficult problem.

There are still hard challenges ahead, particularly in the area of involvement by developing nations. It is essential that these nations participate in a meaningful way if we are to truly tackle this global environmental challenge. But the industrialized nations have come together, taken a strong step, and that is real progress.

Finally, let me thank Prime Minister Hashimoto and the people of Japan for their spirit and dedication to the task.

Citation for Elinor Guggenheimer

December 10, 1997

For the past 50 years, Elinor Guggenheimer has been a tenacious and effective champion on behalf of America's children. She began her crusade by persuading New York City to assume funding of Federal day care centers following World War II. Later, as founding President of the Child Care Action Campaign, she helped to elevate day care to a national concern. Throughout a lifetime of service, she has expanded the focus of her advocacy and generously lent her talents to issues that confront seniors, women, and consumers. Elly Guggenheimer's indomitable spirit and extraordinary efforts to improve the lives of her fellow citizens have helped to illuminate our common path to a better America.

William J. Clinton

NOTE: The First Lady presented the Presidential Citizens Medal to Elinor Guggenheimer in New York City on behalf of the President. An original was not available for verification of this citation.

Remarks to the Coast Guard in Miami, Florida

December 11, 1997

Thank you very much, Lieutenant Britton, for your service and for that very thorough account of your activities. I hope that none of the Coast Guard will ever have to engage in ice-breaking in this area. *[Laughter]*

Admiral Kramek, Admiral Saunders, Admiral Rufe, the men and women of the Coast Guard; Secretary Slater, thank you for your remarks and your work. General McCaffrey, thank you for the extraordinary job you have done in such a short time in focusing our Nation's attention on the drug problem and, even more importantly, coming up with a strategy with which to approach it, a strategy that is beginning to show significant results.

Acting Customs Commissioner Banks, SOUTHCOM Commander General Wilhelm. I noticed that a lot of people laughed, General, when General McCaffrey said that you had a higher intellect than your two predecessors. *[Laughter]* One of them was General McCaffrey—I can understand him putting himself down—*[laughter]*—I don't know what General Clark thinks about it. *[Laughter]*

Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, Congressman Lincoln Diaz-Balart, and my good friend Lieutenant Governor MacKay, thank you all for being here and for the support that you give to the United States in the work we have to do here to deal with the drug problem. Thank all of you for coming. I see a lot of my friends out in the audience, including State Senator Daryl Jones—I'm glad to see you. And of all the men and women of the Coast Guard here, I can't help noticing that my immediate past Coast Guard military aide is now a deputy group commander in St. Petersburg, Lieutenant Commander June Ryan, and I'm glad to see her over there with General Wilhelm, earning an honest living for a change after escaping the political life of Washington. *[Laughter]*